

**Preliminary Amendment filed November 15, 2004
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/659,717**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 (withdrawn): A process for fabricating a solid electrolytic capacitor including the steps of:

plating a fabrication frame comprising an anode terminal member projecting from one of a pair of parallel side frame members, and a cathode terminal member projecting from the other side frame member so as to be opposed to the anode terminal member, the cathode terminal member being stepped to provide a lower portion toward an inner end thereof, a hole being formed in each of the anode terminal member and a higher portion of the cathode terminal member,

joining an anode lead of a capacitor element to an upper surface of the anode terminal member of the plated fabrication frame and joining a bottom surface of the capacitor element to an upper surface of the lower portion of the cathode terminal member,

forming a packaging resin portion around the capacitor element except at the holes, and cutting the fabrication frame along a first vertical plane through the hole formed in the anode terminal member and along a second vertical plane through the hole formed in the cathode terminal member to obtain a solid electrolytic capacitor as separated from the side frame members,

a plating layer being formed by the step of plating the fabrication frame on the anode and cathode terminal members in regions thereof at least inwardly of the first and second vertical planes.

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Claim 2 (withdrawn): A process for fabricating a solid electrolytic capacitor including the steps of:

plating a fabrication frame comprising an anode terminal member projecting from one of a pair of parallel side frame members, and a cathode terminal member projecting from the other side frame member so as to be opposed to the anode terminal member, the cathode terminal member being stepped to provide a lower portion toward the cathode terminal member, a cavity being open downward and being formed in each of the anode terminal member and a higher portion of the cathode terminal member,

joining an anode lead of a capacitor element to an upper surface of the anode terminal member of the plated fabrication frame and joining a bottom surface of the capacitor element to an upper surface of the lower portion of the cathode terminal member,

forming a packaging resin portion around the capacitor element except at the cavities, and cutting the fabrication frame along a first vertical plane through the cavity formed in the anode terminal member and along a second vertical plane through the cavity formed in the cathode terminal member to obtain a solid electrolytic capacitor as separated from the side frame members, a plating layer being formed by the step of plating the fabrication frame on the anode and cathode terminal members in regions thereof at least inwardly of the first and second vertical planes.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising
a blocked shaped capacitor element having ~~a sintered block~~ and an anode lead projecting

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from the capacitor element sintered block, an anode terminal approximately rectangular parallelepipedal and joined to the anode lead, a generally L-shaped cathode terminal joined to the capacitor element sintered block and a packaging resin portion covering the capacitor element,

the anode terminal being provided along perpendicular to the anode lead and exposed from the packaging resin portion at a bottom surface of the resin portion and a first side surface thereof continuous with the bottom surface,

the cathode terminal being provided along a surface of the capacitor element sintered block and exposed from the packaging resin portion at the bottom surface and a second side surface perpendicular to the bottom surface and opposite to the first side surface,

a side portion of the anode terminal exposed from the first side surface and a side portion of the cathode terminal exposed from the second side surface being each covered with a plating layer over a surface thereof and each provided with a recess opened at least downward.

Claim 4 (new): The solid electrolytic capacitor of claim 3 wherein the capacitor element comprises a sintered block.

Claim 5 (new): The solid electrolytic capacitor of claim 3 wherein the cathode terminal is generally L-shaped.